<u>REMARKS</u>

In accordance with the foregoing, the following remarks are respectfully submitted.

Claim 1 has been amended to remove the language "connectedly and successively." It is noted that this amendment supplements the amendment filed on February 6, 2008. For the Examiner's convenience, the amendments to the claims included in the amendment filed on February 6, 2008 are not repeated in this supplemental amendment.

Claims 1-7, 10, and 11 are pending and under consideration. No new matter is presented in this Response.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Response, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 503333.

Respectfully submitted,

STEIN, MCEWEN & BUI, LLP

Date: <u>2//9/98</u>

Michael D. Stein

Registration No. 37,240

1400 Eye St., N.W.

Suite 300

Washington, D.C. 20005 Telephone: (202) 216-9505 Facsimile: (202) 216-9510